

# Legislative Update

# DOD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005, AS OF 0700

#### **Command and Control**

- U.S. Northern Command Commander is Admiral Keating, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- The Commander, JTF-Katrina is Lieutenant General Honore, currently located Layfayette Airport, LA).
- Joint Task Force Katrina East (Forward) Commander has relocated to Camp Shelby, MS.
- Task Force Commander for Louisiana National Guard is Major General Landreneau, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- Joint Task Force Commander for Mississippi National Guard is Major General Cross, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi.

## **Operational Highlights**

- 46,130 (-1,216) Active Duty and National Guard personnel are on the ground or aboard ships supporting relief operations.
  - o 14,334 Active Duty.
  - o 29,946 (-1,412) National Guard. There are 1,850 (+196) outside the area ready to support if required.
- Total aviation support in area:
  - o 33 (-72) helicopters (Active Duty and National Guard).
  - o 10 airplanes (Active Duty and National Guard).
- 13 mortuary affairs teams from the 54<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company are in New Orleans supporting Mortuary Affairs operations at the New Orleans Convention Center. 5 teams placed on 6-hour be prepared to status at Fort Lee, Virginia have been released.
- The National Guard has assumed all search missions in New Orleans allowing the release of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne from the mission. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne is loading out 530 pieces of equipment onto the USNS PILLAU for redeployment.
- Marine Force (MARFOR) Katrina: All search and rescue missions complete.
- USS GRAPPLE and three Mine Countermeasures ships conducting survey of offshore oil platforms vicinity Louisiana coast.
- USNS COMFORT expected to arrive September 28 and be positioned at New Orleans pier side until October 11, 2005.



#### Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: Legislative Affairs

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- FEMA cancelled requirement for the use of one U-2 aircraft to acquire high resolution imagery of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
- The US Corps of Engineers (USACE) states that the overtopping on all three levee breaches in New Orleans have stopped and they have begun pumping water out of the 9th Ward, with Dutch and German teams assisting.
  - o Port of New Orleans expected to open September 28.
  - Estimates approximately one week to complete un-watering of New Orleans, Louisiana. The Corps is shifting emphasis to debris removal and roofing.
  - O Repositioning two large 30-inch portable pumps from New Orleans East to vicinity of Pumping Station #5 in the 9th Ward and expects to un-water the affected areas in 9th Ward and northwestern St Bernard Parish within 3-5 days. 26 pumps now operating.
- Two Barracks Barges have been requested by FEMA to house evacuees and response personnel. The barges will be berthed at the Port of Pascagoula and Gulfport, Mississippi. Support is to house 600 people for up to 90 days.
- Power restored to South Ft Polk, Louisiana. Restoration efforts will begin September 28 for North Ft Polk, Louisiana. Total restoration is expected to take up to two weeks. Generators are currently providing power in North Ft Polk.

## Force Adjustments

 Modifications 6 and 7 are in coordination with the White House and Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Modification 8 will be FAXed to the White House and DHS today. After all coordination is complete, the orders will be sent forward for approval.